

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for managing a communications session with a device, the method comprising the computer-implemented steps of:
establishing, with the device, a communications session that supports a first quality of service level;
receiving, at an application server, a request, associated with the device, for a service provided by the application server;
determining, at the application server, based upon the request for the service and policy criteria, a second quality of service level to be supported by the communications session for the device; and
modifying the communications session by causing a layer-2 change in a communications link used for the communications session, so that the communications session for the device supports the second quality of service level instead of the first quality of service level including signaling by the application server to change the communications session with the device to support the second quality of service level.
2. (Currently amended) The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein:
the request for the service is received from a layer-2 gateway; and
the signaling by the application server includes~~causing a layer-2 change in a communications link used for the communications session, so that the communications session for the device supports the second quality of service level includes~~ signaling the layer-2 gateway to change the communications session with the device to support the second quality of service level.
3. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein causing a layer-2 change in a communications link used for the communications session, so that the communications session for the device supports the second quality of service level, includes causing the modification of session context data at a layer-2 gateway.
4. (Currently amended) The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein causing a layer-2 change in a communications link used for the communications session, so that the communications session for the device supports the second quality of service level,

includes the application server generating and sending to a layer-2 gateway an Authentication, Authorization, and Accounting Change of Authorization (CoA) Request command that specifies a quality of service profile for the second quality of service level.

5. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the first and second quality of service levels each specifies an amount of bandwidth to be allocated to the device.
6. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the device is a wireless device.
7. (Currently amended) The method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising the computer-implemented steps of:
receiving at the application server, from a first application server, first quality of service data that specifies the second quality of service level;
receiving at the application server, from a second application server, second quality of service data that specifies a third quality of service level; and
modifying by the application server, based upon the first quality of service data and the second quality of service data, the communications session by causing a layer-2 change in a communications link used for the communications session, so that the communications session for the device supports a quality of service level other than the ~~first~~second quality of service level.
8. (Currently amended) An ~~apparatus~~application server for managing a communications session with a device, the ~~apparatus~~application server being configured to:
establish, with the device, a communications session that supports a first quality of service level;
receive, at ~~the~~the application server, a request, associated with the device, for a service provided by the application server;
determine, at the application server, based upon the request for the service and policy criteria, a second quality of service level to be supported by the communications session for the device; and
modify the communications session by causing a layer-2 change in a communications link used for the communications session, so that the communications session for the device supports the second quality of service level instead of the first quality of service level including signaling by the application server to change the

communications session with the device to support the second quality of service level.

9. (Currently amended) The apparatusapplication server as recited in Claim 8, wherein: the request for the service is received from a layer-2 gateway; and the signaling by the application server includes~~the apparatus is further configured to cause a layer 2 change in a communications link used for the communications session, so that the communications session for the device supports the second quality of service level~~ by signaling the layer-2 gateway to change the communications session with the device to support the second quality of service level.
10. (Currently amended) The apparatusapplication server as recited in Claim 8, wherein the apparatusapplication server is further configured to cause the modification of session context data at a layer-2 gateway.
11. (Currently amended) The apparatusapplication server as recited in Claim 8, wherein the apparatusapplication server is further configured to generate and send to a layer-2 gateway an Authentication, Authorization, and Accounting Change of Authorization (CoA) Request command that specifies a quality of service profile for the second quality of service level.
12. (Currently amended) The apparatusapplication server as recited in Claim 8, wherein the first and second quality of service levels each specifies an amount of bandwidth to be allocated to the device.
13. (Currently amended) The apparatusapplication server as recited in Claim 8, wherein the device is a wireless device.
14. (Currently amended) The apparatusapplication server as recited in Claim 8, wherein the apparatusapplication server is further configured to:
receive, from a first application server, first quality of service data that specifies the second quality of service level;
receive, from a second application server, second quality of service data that specifies a third quality of service level; and

modify, based upon the first quality of service data and the second quality of service data, the communications session by causing a layer-2 change in a communications link used for the communications session, so that the communications session for the device supports a quality of service level other than the ~~first~~second quality of service level.

15. (Currently amended) An ~~apparatus~~application server for managing a communications session with a device, the ~~apparatus~~application server comprising:
 - means for establishing, with the device, a communications session that supports a first quality of service level;
 - means for receiving, at an application server, a request, associated with the device, for a service provided by the application server;
 - means for determining, at the application server, based upon the request for the service and policy criteria, a second quality of service level to be supported by the communications session for the device; and
 - means for modifying the communications session by causing a layer-2 change in a communications link used for the communications session, so that the communications session for the device supports the second quality of service level instead of the first quality of service level including signaling by the application server to change the communications session with the device to support the second quality of service level.
16. (Currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~application server as recited in Claim 15, wherein:
 - the request for the service is received from a layer-2 gateway; and
 - the signaling by the application server includes~~the apparatus further comprises means for causing a layer 2 change in a communications link used for the communications session, so that the communications session for the device supports the second quality of service level includes~~ signaling the layer-2 gateway to change the communications session with the device to support the second quality of service level.
17. (Currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~application server as recited in Claim 15, wherein the ~~apparatus~~application server further comprises means for causing the modification of session context data at a layer-2 gateway.

18. (Currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~application server as recited in Claim 15, wherein the ~~apparatus~~application server further comprises means for generating and sending to a layer-2 gateway an Authentication, Authorization, and Accounting Change of Authorization (CoA) Request command that specifies a quality of service profile for the second quality of service level.
19. (Currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~application server as recited in Claim 18, wherein the ~~apparatus~~application server further comprises means for specifying the quality of service profile for the second quality of service level using a vendor-specific attribute containing the 3rd Generation Partnership Project 3GPP-Negotiated-QoS attribute.
20. (Currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~application server as recited in Claim 15, wherein the first and second quality of service levels each specifies an amount of bandwidth to be allocated to the device.
21. (Currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~application server as recited in Claim 15, wherein the device is a wireless device.
22. (Currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~application server as recited in Claim 15, further comprising means for:
 - receiving, from a first application server, first quality of service data that specifies the second quality of service level;
 - receiving, from a second application server, second quality of service data that specifies a third quality of service level; and
 - modifying, based upon the first quality of service data and the second quality of service data, the communications session by causing a layer-2 change in a communications link used for the communications session, so that the communications session for the device supports a quality of service level other than the ~~first~~second quality of service level.